

TAX COLLECTORS AN TREAUERS ASSOCIATON
LEGISLATIVE REPORT
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
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1. Anchor Rebates are scheduled for the first week of November, 2023. If you have direct deposit the payment should be in your account on November 1, 2023.
2. I attended the March 24, 2023 meeting of the Legislation Committee at the League of Municipalities meeting at the Princeton Junction Marriott Hotel. The following Bills were discussed:

A-644: Requires use of design bid build or design build delivery system for certain local government construction projects. Requires the use of either design-bid- build or design-build process for construction projects undertaken by a county improvement authority and for public redevelopment projects undertaken by a municipality or redevelopment entity pursuant to the “Local Redevelopment and Housing Law”.

S-3565/A-5170: Establishes “Energy Infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships Program” and related financing program in NJ infrastructure Bank; and authorizes certain energy contracts under “Public School Contracts Law” and “Local Contracts Law” up to 30 years. This bill amends the “New Jersey Infrastructure Trust Act”.

S-3612: Adjusts bid threshold amounts on certain public contracts. Increases the bid threshold from \$17,500. To \$50,000. If a contracting unit has a qualified purchasing agent, the threshold is increased to \$100,000.

S-3635/A-5279: Removes registered apprenticeship program requisites of public work contracts; sets apprenticeship standards for prevailing wage projects. Amends the “New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act” by setting a standard for apprenticeship programs if a contractor or subcontractor chooses to participate in an apprenticeship program.

S-3665: prohibits government entities from procuring and using technology products and services from companies owned by , controlled by, or domiciled in certain foreign countries.

S-3731: Permits municipalities to place lien on fire damaged property’s insurance proceeds in certain instances and required fire and explosion insurance coverage for certain individuals.

SCR-140: Proposes constitutional amendment to increase the amount of veterans’ property tax deduction from \$250.00 to \$2,500.00 over four years.

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A-5302: An Act concerning actions to foreclose the right to redeem a tax sale certificate, amending R.S. 54: 5-86 and R.S. 54:5-87 and supplementing chapter 5 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes.

A-5542: An Act Concerning premium payments made by purchasers of tax liens and amending R.S.54: 5-33. This Bill would require that within one year of the date that a final judgement of foreclosure is entered vesting title to the property in the lienholder, the premium payment is to be deposited with the court and paid, upon application therefor, to the person against whom a judgement in foreclosure has been recovered. If no application is made within one year of the premium being deposited with the court, upon application to the court by the chief financial officer of the municipality in which the property is located, the premium will be turned over to the chief financial officer and become part of the funds of the municipality. The bill would also require that in the event that a property is required to be sold at a sheriff's sale, the premium is to be refunded to the holder of the tax lien if the property is sold to a third party within five years from the date of sale.

S-3997: An Act concerning actions to foreclose the right to redeem tax sale certificates, amending various parts of the statutory law, and supplementing chapter 5 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes. This bill would revise the process governing an action filed in Superior Court by the holder of a tax lien on a parcel of real property that person institutes an action to foreclose the right of redemption of the tax lien. This bill is necessary because the United States Supreme Court's holding in Tyler v. Hennepin County, Minnesota, et al., 143 S. Ct 1369 (2023), has undermined the provision of New Jersey's tax sale law which wards the holder of a tax sale certificate the ability to foreclose the property owner's right to redeem the tax lien and wards the holder of the tax sale certificate the property itself, as well as all the property owner's equity in the property. The right of redemption of a tax lien is the right of the owner of the property on which the tax lien exists to repay the holder of the tax lien for the amount of taxes paid by the lienholder, plus interest, and remove the lien from the property. The provisions of this bill are intended to address the unfairness of the loss of that equity to property owners who lose property in a tax lien foreclosure. ...Like other assets, home equity should be protected from unjust government seizure. New Jersey is one of a handful of states, plus the District of Columbia, that does not currently, following a tax lien foreclosure, return to a property owner the remaining equity in the property subject to the tax lien foreclosure.

